II.   CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as indicated in the following listing:

1. – 41. (Cancelled).

42. (New)   A method for creating a read-only contract between a buyer and a seller, the method comprising:

the buyer logging on to an e-commerce website of the seller, wherein the e-commerce website displays a product listing for a product, the product listing comprising:

a description of the product; and

a price of the product;

the buyer making a selection to purchase the product;

responsive to the buyer making the selection, the seller generating an XML file;

the seller writing contract terms to the XML file, the contract terms comprising:

the product listing;

shipping terms for the product;

and warranty terms for the product;

the seller writing personal information of the seller to the XML file;

the buyer writing personal information of the buyer to the XML file;

presenting the XML file to both the buyer and the seller to determine whether the buyer and seller both agree to the contract terms;

responsive to determining that the buyer and seller do not both agree to the contract terms, modifying the XML file;

responsive to determining that the buyer and seller both agree to the contract terms, the

buyer and the seller convert the XML file into a shopping token by both digitally signing the

XML file, wherein the buyer uses a first private to key to digitally sign the XML file and the

seller uses a second private key to digitally sign the XML file, and wherein the shopping token

comprises a read-only contract between the buyer and the seller; and

storing the shopping token on a trusted third party computer;

wherein contents of the shopping token cannot be copied by the buyer or the seller; and

wherein an attempt to alter the shopping token renders the shopping token invalid.